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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1059)

Name of Candidate	Shailla Anupam		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	57549
Center	Karol Bagh	Date	9/01/19

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

M-1/4, Plot No-A-12/13, 1st Floor, Ansal Building, Dr. Vidya Sagar Homoeopathic Clinic, Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Highlighting the issues faced in BOT and EPC models of infrastructure investment, explain how HAM can address these. (150 words) 10

अवसंरचना निवेश के BOT एवं EPC मॉडल के समक्ष आने वाली समस्याओं पर प्रकाश डालते हुए व्याख्या कीजिए कि HAM इनका किस प्रकार समाधान कर सकता है।

We have experimented with various PPP models in the past including BOT (Build Operate Transfer) and EPC (Engineering Procurement & Construction) model. However both these models have been fraught with various issues.

Issues in BOT model

① Poor quality of construction
② Time and cost overruns
③ Lack of accountability of the private sector.

Issues in EPC model

① As private sector does not collects ~~funds~~ tolls / fees, there is lack of incentive to construct better.

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(2) Issues in government procurement
(3) Issue with design.

The HAM (Hybrid Annuity Model) can help solve many of these issues faced by previous PPP models. It involves a 60:40 cost provision ratio in which payment is made to private 3rd party (which constructs the project) after seeing the quality and performance of the project.

Its benefits:-

(1) It incentivizes private sector (responsible for construction) to perform better as fee payment is linked with performance
(2) Avoids time and cost overruns.
(3) Reduces pressure on government to provide funds at once thus leading to improved credit condition.

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2. The measurement of the extent of formal sector and formal employment is yet an unsettled matter in our economy. Comment. Also, mention the steps which the government has taken to improve its extent.

(150 words) 10

औपचारिक क्षेत्रक और औपचारिक रोजगार के विस्तार का मापन हमारी अर्थव्यवस्था में अभी भी एक अनसुलझा मामला है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, इसके विस्तार में सुधार हेतु सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों का उल्लेख कीजिए।

There are varying definitions for measuring formal sector and formal employment which leads to inconsistency and lack of a clear picture of employment data in our country.

For example, Economic Survey 2017-18 gave two parameters for measurement of formal sector employment:-

(1) Social security → 31% formal employment

(2) Tax-paying → 53% formal employment

Various other estimates put formal employment at around 10% - 15%.

These inconsistencies make it difficult to gauge the actual formal employment

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and presented policy action for same

Steps by government to increase the extent of formal sector

(1) Social security measures

→ EPFO, ESIC

→ Recently government decided to pay full 12% of employer's contribution instead of earlier 8.33% in EPFO.

(2) Entrepreneurship promotion

→ Stand-up India → to promote entrepreneurship among weaker sections

→ MUDRA Yojana → to provide easy loans to MSMEs & entrepreneurs

(3) Skilling initiatives

→ Skill India Mission → to skill 300 million people by 2020.

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3. The investment rate in India has gradually declined after a historic high in the mid 2000s. Examine the reasons behind this trend. Discuss the steps required to revive investment for a sustained growth. (150 words) 10

भारत में निवेश दर, 21वीं सदी के प्रथम दशक के मध्य में एक ऐतिहासिक उच्चतर के उपरांत निरंतर घटती रही है। इस प्रवृत्ति के पीछे निहित कारणों का परीक्षण कीजिए। निरंतर वृद्धि हेतु निवेश को पुनर्जीवित करने के लिए आवश्यक कदमों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

After reaching a peak of around 35% in mid 2000s, India's investment rate has been continuously falling and currently stands at 29%.

Reasons for this fall:-

1. Increase in household savings rather than saving in formal financial institutions like banks.
2. Preference of to cash, gold etc. over mutual funds, savings scheme etc.
3. Global slowdown witnessed after the 2008 Recession
4. Low Interest Rates being provided by banks disincentivises saving in banks. Eg. Interest rate for FD (fixed

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Defaulters) has continuously decreased.

Steps to revive investment climate

(1) Incentivising banks to provide better interest rates to consumers

(2) Better use of innovative instruments like Mutual funds, Pension funds etc.

(3) Fast resolution of stressed assets of banks. ~~thera~~

(4) Proper implementation of IBC (Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code) to improve the credit climate of country.

(5) Better regulatory structure for NBFCs.

The Economic Survey 2017-18 pointed out that investments rather than savings will be the real enabler of economic growth for India. We must heed to this advice.

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4. Strengthening the policy and institutional ecosystem supporting inclusive growth needs to be a top policy priority to thrive in the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Discuss. (150 words) 10

चौथी औद्योगिक क्रांति में सफल होने के लिए समावेशी विकास को प्रोत्साहित करने वाली नीति एवं संस्थागत परिवेश के सुदृढ़ीकरण को शीर्ष नीतिगत प्राथमिकता बनाये जाने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The fourth Industrial Revolution, termed as Industry 4.0, is unfolding across the world. It will mark major changes in the production cycles and supply chains.

To thrive in and to benefit from Industry 4.0, India needs to take certain measures to improve its performance in inclusive growth as inclusive growth is a pre-requisite for proper exploitation of Industry 4.0.

Measures to be taken

Policy measures:-

(i) Including inclusive growth as an

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important policy agenda in policy documents and action plans.

(ii) Steps to remove regional disparities :-

→ focused attention on North-East and other areas lagging behind in development

→ Rectifying urban-rural divide through schemes like PURA, AMRUT etc.

(iii) Enhanced women participation → through enabling schemes like Stand-Up India.

Institutional measures

(i) Skilling institutions with focus on skilling in new technologies like IOT, AI, Big Data.

(ii) Improving higher education ecosystem with proper emphasis on vocational training

(iii) Setting up a separate department for implementing policies related to Industry 4.0.

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5. Explaining the role of human capital in economic development of a country, highlight the challenges and opportunities related to human capital formation in India. (150 words) 10

किसी देश के आर्थिक विकास में मानव पूंजी की भूमिका की व्याख्या करते हुए, भारत में मानव पूंजी निर्माण से संबंधित चुनौतियों एवं अवसरों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

The concept of human capital means people as valuable assets for powering economic growth and development of a country.

Human capital is important for economic development of a country as:-

(i) from the workforce, which is engaged in entire process of production and supply.

(ii) Taking decisions for boosting economic growth

(iii) Entrepreneurship leading to ~~formation~~ creation of new jobs thus boosting demand and growth.

(iv) Adoption of new technologies which make production process more efficient

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Challenges of human capital formation in India

1. Low literacy levels
2. Abundance of low-skilled / unskilled labour
3. Lack of synergy between industry and academia leading to graduates not having requisite skills.
4. Poor health / malnutrition's effects abilities of workers.
5. High levels of poverty.

Opportunities

1. Demographic dividend: Majority of our population (63%) is going to be between 15-59 years.
2. Increased focus on education and skilling by government.
3. Policies like Make in India, Skill India Mission etc.
4. Ageing population in other countries like Japan.

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6. In the context of major challenges that have restricted industrial growth, there is need for a new industrial policy to enable the industry to fulfill its role as the engine of growth and shoulder the responsibility of adding more value and jobs. Comment. (150 words) 10

औद्योगिक संवृद्धि को बाधित करने वाली प्रमुख चुनौतियों के संदर्भ में, उद्योग को संवृद्धि के वाहक के रूप में अपनी भूमिका के निर्वहन एवं अधिक मूल्यवर्धन और रोजगार में वृद्धि का उत्तरदायित्व संभालने में सक्षम बनाने हेतु एक नई औद्योगिक नीति की आवश्यकता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Indian economy witnessed a unique transition from primary to directly tertiary sector (services). Thus our manufacturing sector (industry) could never fully mature and continues to be faced with several lacunae.

Challenges faced by industrial sector :-

1. Low-skilled / unskilled workforce
2. Lack of adoption of new technologies like IoT, Big data etc.
3. Use of outdated equipments and production techniques.
4. Credit crunch
5. Lack of linkages with academia and research.

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To effectively deal with these challenges, it is essential that India adopts a new industrial policy.

Features of the New Policy:-

① focus on adoption of new cutting edge technologies like IOT, Big Data, AI etc.

② Skilling of workforce through skill institutions and vocational training at school/college level

③ Improved IPR regime to meet global standards

④ Explore new sectors where we have export-competitiveness

⑤ Focus on SEZs, industrial clusters etc for focused industrial growth.

To fully leverage ~~our~~ its demographic dividend, India needs to adopt a new, modern-suited industrial policy.

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7. Discussing the reforms that contributed in improving India's ranking in the World Bank's 'Ease of Doing Business' index, identify the challenges that still remain in the overall environment of doing business. Suggest some concrete steps that India can take to further improve its performance on the index. (150 words) 10

विश्व बैंक के 'इज ऑफ़ डूइंग बिज़नस' सूचकांक में भारत की रैंकिंग को बेहतर बनाने में योगदान करने वाले सुधारों पर चर्चा करते हुए, व्यवसाय करने के समग्र वातावरण में अब भी विद्यमान चुनौतियों की पहचान कीजिए। भारत द्वारा इस सूचकांक पर अपने प्रदर्शन को और अधिक सुधारने के लिए उठाए जा सकने वाले कुछ ठोस कदम सुझाइए।

India saw a huge jump in its Ease of Doing Business Index Rankings → from 130 to 100 in 2017 and from 100 to 77 in 2018.

Reforms that contributed to this jump

① Implementation of GST
② Easing of construction permits
③ Removal of multiple ~~borders~~ hassles across borders leading to time and cost efficiency
④ better protection of minority investors

challenges that remain

① Starting a new business continues to be fraught with many problems

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(2) The taxes imposed on businesses (corporate tax) continues to be high

(3) Getting clearances especially environmental clearances is difficult

Steps that can be taken further

(1) Reform in GST administration & through better implementation and truly realizing 'One Nation, One Tax'.

(2) Easing of trade across borders

(3) More Reforms for MSME sector

→ better access to credit

→ Improved licensing regime.

(4) faster and streamlined process for obtaining clearances.

To achieve our vision of getting a top 30 rank in the Index by 2020, these reforms will go a long way.

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8. Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) are fast becoming an important avenue for channelising funds for projects in infrastructure sector. Explaining the concept of SPVs, highlight some of the benefits and risks associated with them. Also, suggest measures to manage the risks identified.
(150 words) 10

विशेष प्रयोजन वाहन (स्पेशल पर्पज व्हीकल्स: SPVs) तेजी से अवसंरचना क्षेत्रक में परियोजनाओं हेतु निधियों (फंड्स) को दिशा प्रदान करने वाले महत्वपूर्ण मार्ग बनते जा रहे हैं। SPVs की अवधारणा की व्याख्या करते हुए उनसे संबंधित कुछ लाभों एवं जोखिमों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, चिन्हित जोखिमों को प्रबंधित करने हेतु उपाय सुझाइए।

SPVs (Special Purpose Vehicles) are bodies that are created specifically for the implementation of a particular project.

Benefits of SPVs :-

① Help in providing focused attention and faster achieving of target

② Less bureaucratic hurdles and red-tapesin

③ Experts can be hoped in

④ Time and cost efficiency

Risks associated with them

① Conflicts with existing bodies which leads to project stalling.

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(2) States may feel loss of autonomy
(3) SPVs often have a limited notion and fail to take overall economy in the regard
(4) Nepotism in appointments.

Steps to deal with these risks
(1) Coordination with existing bodies so that their respective expertise can be used.
(2) Convergence of SPVs meant for a particular sector.
(3) Fast dissolution of SPVs whose work has been completed.
(4) Improved and transparent recruitment process.

SPVs can help in speedy implementation of infrastructure projects. Their ~~exp~~ usage must be institutionalised

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9. Providing social security, especially to those working in unorganised sector, is an important requirement to achieve the goal of inclusive growth. Discuss. (150 words) 10

सामाजिक सुरक्षा प्रदान करना, विशेषकर उन लोगों को जो असंगठित क्षेत्र में कार्यरत हैं, समावेशी विकास के लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Social security encompasses pension and gratuity benefits, healthcare insurance, maternity benefits, loans and others which are essential for overall welfare of workers and employees.

Social security is an important component in the vision of inclusive growth. It helps provide dignity, security and healthy living conditions to workers, all of which are important prerequisites for inclusive growth.

In India, unorganised sector comprises more than 85% of total employment. The absence of social

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security schemes for the unorganised sector is thus detrimental to the interests of a large chunk of India's population.

How can social security for unorganised workers help in achieving inclusive growth:-

① Old age benefits → thus ensuring that they can retire without worries.

② Workplace benefits, which are important for overall growth and job satisfaction of workers.

③ Dignity - through provision of mandated holidays, health benefits etc.

④ Savings of money spent by workers on availing these facilities in lieu of social security.

Social security for unorganised workers is a sine-qua-non for inclusive growth.

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10. NBFCs can play a critical role in strengthening our SME ecosystem and contributing to economic development. Comment. Also, discuss the need to build a regulatory framework to address the challenges that NBFCs face. (150 words) 10

NBFCs हमारे SME परिवेश को सुदृढ़ करने एवं आर्थिक विकास में योगदान करने में एक महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकती हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, NBFCs द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों का समाधान करने हेतु एक नियामक ढांचा तैयार करने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

NBFCs or Non-Banking Financial Institutions are also called Shadow Banking. They deal in providing credit, loans and many other financial facilities.

NBFCs play a very important role in our overall economic development and also facilitate the MSME sector ~~the~~ as:-

1. Credit supply to MSME sector -
2. Important instruments for savings and investments - e.g. Mutual funds, Pension funds.
3. Provide credit to infrastructure, housing, construction sector etc.

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(7) boost overall economic activity and supplement banks in various activities

Challenges faced by them

(1) Lack of short-term credit supply from banks and other institutions.

(2) Risk averse alternatives to banks - eg. recent IL&FS crises

(3) Lack of public trust and confidence

(4) Weak regulatory mechanism.

As most of problems faced by MSMEs stem from their weak regulation, it becomes imperative to implement a strong regulatory framework for them.

→ It will help to avoid ~~epsid~~ episodes like the IL&FS crisis

→ Will decrease the risk associated with them.

→ Will increase public confidence.

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11. In the light of increasing NPAs and frauds, the twin balance sheet problem has grown immensely. Comment on the issue and analyse the potential of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code to be a game changer for Indian economy's health and long-term growth. (250 words) 15

NPAs एवं धोखाधड़ी की बढ़ती घटनाओं के चलते, दोहरे तुलन पत्र (ट्विन बैलेंस शीट) की समस्या में अत्यधिक वृद्धि हुई है। इस मुद्दे पर टिप्पणी कीजिए तथा भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था की दशा और दीर्घकालिक संवृद्धि के लिए दिवाला एवं दिवालियापन संहिता से एक गेम चेंजर होने की क्षमता का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Indian economy is currently grappling with the twin balance sheet problem wherein the balance sheets of companies is stressed due to increasing losses and low profitability and the balance sheets of banks are stressed due to bad loans and NPAs and frauds like the PNB scam

factors that have led to Twin balance Sheet Problem

→ ① Ill-health of PSUs
→ improper management and governance
→ mounting losses
→ high competition from the private sector

② Increasing NPAs in sectors like Power, Telecom, Construction etc.

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③ Corporate frauds and scams
→ ie → Vijay Mallaya and Nirav Modi scam
④ Government's pressure on public sector banks to lend to some ill-advised sectors/companies.
⑤ Lack of credit information and improper following of norms before giving loans.

In light of the twin balance sheet problem, the government came up with the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) for faster resolution of stressed assets.

Potential of IBC in tackling the NPA problem

→ Definite time limit → It provides for a time limit of 180 days (extendable by 90 days) ~~which~~ within which resolution proceedings have to be completed.

→ It appoints Insolvency Professionals who will formulate the resolution plan

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which will be voted upon by the Committee of Creditors.

→ It puts limit on self-bidding i.e. owners/ directors placing a bid for their company.

→ It provides for a fresh adjudication framework in form of Debt Recovery Tribunal and appellate authority too

The IBC can be a game changer for the Indian economy and can vastly improve the credit portfolio of banks.

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12. Public Sector Enterprises formed the backbone of industrial development after independence, but with changing times, their role has also changed. Discuss. Also, comment on the need to adopt a multi-pronged strategy to deal with the issues that they are facing. (250 words) 15

स्वतंत्रता के उपरांत सार्वजनिक क्षेत्रक के उद्यम औद्योगिक विकास की रीढ़ बने, लेकिन बदलते समय के साथ उनकी भूमिका भी बदल गई है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, उनके द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली समस्याओं से निपटने के लिए एक बहु-आयामी रणनीति अपनाये जाने की आवश्यकता पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

In the years immediately after independence, a great thrust was place on self-reliance. For this purpose, Public Sector Enterprises in various sectors like power, communication etc were formed.

Why were Public Sector Enterprises stressed upon?

(1) Capital → It was felt that private sector lacked the requisite capital to invest in capital-intensive sectors.

(2) Equity → Private sector, it was felt, worked on profitability rather than equity considerations.

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(3) Strategic importance of some sectors like railways and defence thus they couldn't be handed over to private sector.

However in the recent years, especially after the liberalisation reforms in 1991, the private sector has been growing in importance and the public sector enterprises have gradually shrunk, to a smaller place.

Reasons for changing role of public sector

(1) LPG reforms

→ Licence Raj and quota system have been liberalised

→ Foreign companies are being allowed to open their branches in India

(2) Deregulating FDI norms

→ have been allowed in almost all sectors, mostly through automatic route.

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(3) Increasing competence of private sector → examples of successful companies like Reliance, Infosys etc.

(4) Issues faced by public sector enterprises (PSEs)
→ Declining profitability
→ Mismanagement and poor governance
→ Lack of expertise

Thus a multi-pronged approach is needed to revive the Public sector Enterprises in form of:-

(1) Governance reforms → Instead of allowing nepotism, ~~&~~ experts must be hired in to manage these enterprises.

(2) Profitability → The sick PSEs must be divested fast and the good-performers must be incentivised to continue better.

(3) Human Resource Management → The recruitment process needs to be streamlined and disguised unemployment needs to be dealth with.

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13. For a developing country like India, the sectoral allocation of scarce resources is a critical factor determining pace and quality of development. Discuss. (250 words) 15

भारत जैसे विकासशील राष्ट्र के लिए, दुर्लभ संसाधनों का क्षेत्रकों को आबंटन वस्तुतः विकास की गति और गुणवत्ता का निर्धारण करने वाला एक महत्वपूर्ण कारक है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India supports around 15% of the world's population but has only 4% of freshwater resources. Moreover, with growing population and increasing economic growth, the demand of all resources is going to increase further.

We thus need to have a strategy of resource efficiency or resource management for proper allocation of our scarce resources and to fulfil our developmental needs.

Advantages of Resource Efficiency

① Sustainability → It will ensure that the lives of future generations are not

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compromised by our today's actions.

(2) Equity → It will ensure equitable distribution of resources thus fostering inclusive growth.

(3) Ecological considerations → It will ensure that we don't degrade the environment in our quest for more resources.

(4) Planned development → It will prevent misuse / over-allocation of resources to some sectors at the expense of others.

Steps for improving resource efficiency

(1) EIA (Environment Impact Assessment) and SIA (Social Impact Assessment) is a must before any major project

(2) Resource efficiency strategy must be incubated in our plans / Niti Aayog's Action Agenda

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(3) Conservation Plans to be formulated and implemented for scarce resources like water

(4) Formulation of an Expert Committee/ Task Force for laying ~~days~~ down the roadmap to resource efficiency.

(5) Penalising actions that wilfully waste resources

(6) Awareness and literacy campaigns for ~~for~~ conservation and sustainable use of resources.

(7) Energy efficiency measures to prevent decrease of energy.

Resource efficiency is a necessity for India to continue on its development path in a sustainable, equitable and inclusive manner.

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14. Highlight the importance of MSME sector in India's economy. Also, identifying the challenges, suggest some policy recommendations to ensure their sustenance and competitive growth. (250 words) 15

भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था में MSME क्षेत्रक के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, चुनौतियों की पहचान करते हुए उन्हें संपोषित करने और उनके प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक वृद्धि को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कुछ नीतिगत अनुशंसाओं का सुझाव दीजिए।

The MSME sector is often termed as the 'drivers of Indian economy' due to the important role it plays in our economy.

Importance of MSME sector

① Employment - It provides employment to around 30% of our population.

② GDP - forms a huge share of our GDP and economic growth.

③ Inclusion / Social empowerment

→ MSMEs provide employment to weaker and marginalised sections like SCs, STs etc.

→ As women constitute 1/4th of their workforce, they help in gender empowerment as well.

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(4) Take forward the vision of 'Make in India'

Challenges faced by MSME sector

(1) Capital → face capital crunch as banks are reluctant to give loans to them

(2) Workforce → have a shortage of trained and quality workforce.

(3) lack of adoption of modern technology

(4) Outdated machinery and processes which lead to low productivity

(5) Difficulty in getting environmental and land clearances.

The government has taken various measures to improve the MSME sector. However further steps need to taken like:-

(1) Access to formal capital → by incentivising banks ~~and~~ to lend to MSMEs.

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(2) Prior training / Mid-career training of workforce

(2) Establishing test beds for adoption of new technology

(4) Promote research to improve manufacturing competitiveness. ~~and~~ ~~at~~

→ Industry-academia linkages also need to be strengthened

(5) Promoting weaker sections and women to open MSMEs / entrepreneurship

MSMEs are the vehicles of economic growth and concerted policy actions need to be taken to improve their profitability and competitiveness

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15. In the inclusive development index of World Economic Forum (WEF), India stands very low. Discuss briefly the issues associated with living standard, environmental sustainability and protection of future generations from further indebtedness in India, on which the ranking is done. (250 words) 15

विश्व आर्थिक मंच (WEF) के समावेशी विकास सूचकांक में, भारत अत्यंत निचले पायदान पर है। भारत में जीवन स्तर, पर्यावरणीय संधारणीयता एवं भावी पीढ़ियों को और अधिक ऋणग्रस्तता से संरक्षित करने से संबंधित मुद्दों, जिनके आधार पर यह रैंकिंग की जाती है, की संक्षेप में चर्चा कीजिए।

India's poor performance in the Inclusive Development Index of World Economic Forum raises serious questions regarding the path of development that it has embarked on.

Areas of concern

(1) Living standard

→ 73% of the wealth of our country is owned by top 1% population.

→ large urban-rural disparity

→ Lack of basic amenities like food, shelter, clothing, education to a large chunk of population.

→ Regional disparities → between North-East and rest of India etc.

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(2) Environmental Sustainability

→ Loss of forest cover due to construction of multi-purpose projects

→ Improper EIA (Environment Impact Assessment).

→ Threat to biodiversity

(3) Protection of future generations

→ Improper resource efficiency, which is leading to fast decline in available resources.

→ Increasing pollution in water bodies making them unfit for use.

→ Increased emissions of Green House gases like CO_2 which will lead to a warmer earth for future generations.

Our development path must take into account equity, sustainability, inclusiveness and

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need of future generations etc. And

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16. Under-employment rather than unemployment is the key problem facing India today. Elaborate. Also, suggest measures to counter this problem. (250 words) 15

वर्तमान में भारत के समक्ष मुख्य समस्या बेरोजगारी नहीं अपितु अल्प-रोजगार है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही, इस समस्या के प्रत्युत्तर हेतु कुछ उपाय सुझाइए।

Unemployment stands at a missing 5% today in India. Hence more than unemployment, we are facing the problem of underemployment.

Underemployment refers to employment below one's capacity. It is even more dangerous than unemployment because it creates a false perception of being employed while preventing individuals from reaching their full potential.

Reasons for prevalent under-employment

① Education → The education being imparted is not according to demands of industry. Thus youth are forced

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to take low-paying informal jobs.

(2) Lack of jobs in formal sector which leads to increased informal employment

(3) Low skills ~~and~~ among workforce making them unemployable

(4) Lack of acquaintance and training in emerging technologies like Big Data, AI, IOT etc.

(5) Lack of industry - academia - research linkages

(6) Agriculture sector accounts for 40% of employment with majority being seasonal and casual labourers

Measures to counter under-employment

(1) Skilling initiatives → both at school/university level as well as industry level.

→ the existing ITIs, skill institutes etc need to be leveraged.

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(2) Vocational training to be made a part of education curriculum.
(3) Industry-academia linkages to better gauge the demand of industries and train students accordingly.
(4) More formal sector job creation through stress on entrepreneurship and social protection.
(5) Increased adoption of energy technologies at workplace.

Tackling the nascent problem of under employment is necessary for us to reap the benefits of demographic dividend.

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17. A near stagnant tax to gdp ratio for the country since decades reflects not only non-fruition of efforts to increase it but also underlying structural issues with tax regime. Comment. (250 words) 15

राष्ट्र के लिए कई दशकों से कर-GDP अनुपात का लगभग स्थिर रहना, न केवल इसको बढ़ाने हेतु किए जाने के प्रयासों के फलीभूत न होने, अपितु कर व्यवस्था में अंतर्निहित संरचनागत समस्याओं को भी प्रतिबिंबित करता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

India's tax to GDP ratio has remained stagnant at around 17% for many decades now. This has been despite various schemes of the government to improve the same.

The stagnant tax to GDP ratio is a culmination of ~~both~~ two major factors - deficiencies in the existing tax regime and failure of government efforts to improve the tax scenario.

Deficiencies in existing tax regime

(1) Very high levels of corporate tax which incentivise tax evasion.

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(2) Progressive taxation system → incentivises tax frauds to remain below a benchmark for low tax payment

(3) Large number of indirect taxes and levies at local and state level

(4) GST has not yielded full results yet. Moreover many items like alcohol are outside its ambit.

(5) Lack of proper enforcement mechanism which lets people get away with tax evasion

Non-fruition of government efforts

(1) Improper implementation of GST

(2) Demonetization, aimed at curbing black money and tax evasion, failed to yield intended results.

(3) Despite bringing down levels of corporate tax, there hasn't been a very high increase in tax returns.

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However, it would not be correct to say that none of government's measures have yielded results. GST has the potential to be a game-changer. Moreover, there has been an increase in direct and indirect tax collections in past 1-2 years which show a favourable sign.

We need to improve our tax administration. It will lead to increased incomes for government which can then be used for social sector benefits.

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18. The need to overhaul the current budget making process can be gauged from the fact that it neither undertakes broad-based consultations, nor is adequately transparent nor effective in estimating and allocating the demands of various stakeholders. Examine. (250 words) 15

वर्तमान बजट निर्माण प्रक्रिया में आमूल परिवर्तन करने की आवश्यकता का अनुमान इस तथ्य से लगाया जा सकता है कि न तो इसका परामर्श का आधार व्यापक है, न ही पर्याप्त पारदर्शी है एवं न ही यह विभिन्न हितधारकों की मांगों का आकलन और आवंटन करने में ही प्रभावी है। परीक्षण कीजिए।

A budget is a policy statement that lists out the expected expenditure and revenue of a government for the upcoming fiscal year.

India's budget-making process is marked by various lacunae which necessitate a reform in the process.

Issues with the current process

→ ① Not adequately representative

→ formulated by a handful of Cabinet ministers

→ No public discourse on the necessity of upcoming schemes and expenditures announced in Budget.

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→ The Budget is not put in public domain as a draft document before its finalisation

→ Even the Parliament can also suggest amendments to the Budget which seldom lead to any major policy changes.

② Lack of transparency

→ The amount allocated for various projects/schemes is often random. There is seldom evidence to justify the amount of expenditure.

→ Very broad figures of expected revenues and expenditures which don't always match ground realities.

→ Lack of discussion on the amounts exceeded in the previous budgets and reasons for the same.

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(3) Inefficiency in gauging the demand

→ Needs of various stakeholders (minorities, women, youth) are often ill-addressed.

→ Mis-allocation of funds for some scheme/project which might actually be beneficial.

→ Inadequacy in balancing conflicting interests of stakeholders.

Thus, there is a need to overhaul the budget-making process to make it more inclusive, representative, transparent and demand-aligned. Gender budgeting also needs to be included as an important component in this exercise.

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19. Adhering to fiscal discipline is considered as a hallmark of sound financial management by government. Elaborate. To what extent does the Budget 2018 incorporates fiscal discipline vis-a-vis competing targets of the government? **(250 words) 15**

राजकोषीय अनुशासन के पालन को सरकार द्वारा स्वस्थ वित्तीय प्रबंधन की एक कसौटी माना जाता है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। 2018 का बजट किस सीमा तक सरकार के प्रतिस्पर्धी लक्ष्यों एवं राजकोषीय अनुशासन को समाविष्ट करता है?

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20. The role of international trade in achieving a quicker pace of economic development is well recognized. What are the benefits of international trade for a developing country like India? Highlight the challenges that India faces in improving its share in world trade. (250 words) 15

आर्थिक विकास की द्रुत गति को हासिल करने में अंतरराष्ट्रीय व्यापार की भूमिका को बखूबी मान्यता प्राप्त है। भारत जैसे विकासशील राष्ट्र के लिए अंतरराष्ट्रीय व्यापार के क्या लाभ हैं? विश्व व्यापार में अपनी भागीदारी बढ़ाने में भारत द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Exports are the ~~carrier~~ major carriers of a nation's growth. China's meteoric rise in world economy was hinged mostly on its exports and increased International trade.

International trade holds great potential for India as:-

① Improving balance of payment and reducing current and capital account deficit

② Boosts to manufacturers
→ will lead to increased economic growth.
→ provide employment to millions of youth

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(3) Increased economic growth and GDP due to more production for export purposes

(4) Lucrative expertise in services sector by export of IT services

(5) Increased foreign reserves which can be used for currency stability and purchase of oil.

(8) Import of key necessities
→ oil - we are not self-reliant in oil production
→ critical inputs and raw materials which are used at later stages of manufacturing

Challenges faced by India :—

(1) Low export competitiveness which makes our products costly.

(2) Quality regime of other countries leads to rejection of Indian exports.

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Eg- India's milk exports rejected by New Zealand.

(3) International competition from Vietnam, Bangladesh and China.

(4) Lack of enabling policies for exporters

(5) Lack of trained workforce and poor adoption of new technologies.

(6) Inverted duty structure makes exports less competitive.

We need to improve the quality and competitiveness of our exports to fully leverage the benefits that a changing world order has to offer.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1062)

Name of Candidate	Shreethe Anupam		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	57540
Center	ORN	Date	31/12/18

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें **बीस** प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Technical solutions are necessary to augment the traditional methods of guarding the border. In this context, while mentioning the different components of Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS), discuss how it can help to address the gaps in the present system of border security. **(150 words) 10**

सीमा चौकसी की पारंपरिक विधियों का संवर्द्धन करने हेतु तकनीकी समाधान आवश्यक हैं। इस संदर्भ में, व्यापक एकीकृत सीमा प्रबंधन प्रणाली (कॉम्प्रिहेंसिव इंटीग्रेटेड बॉर्डर मैनेजमेंट सिस्टम: CIBMS) के विभिन्न घटकों का उल्लेख करते हुए, चर्चा कीजिए कि सीमा सुरक्षा की वर्तमान व्यवस्था में विद्यमान कमियों को दूर करने में यह कैसे सहायता कर सकता है।

The traditional methods of guarding the border involving fencing and building of barricades to prevent entry of ~~f~~ intruders.

However such traditional methods have failed to secure our borders effectively. Moreover, with rise of new technologies, they have become inadequate and outdated to deal with emerging threats.

Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System seeks to integrate the traditional border guarding methods with technical solutions for more effective and robust border security. Its different components are:—

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→ Use of CCTV cameras for round-the-clock surveillance.
→ Use of UAVs (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles) and drones to guard difficult terrain.
→ 24x7 communication system for effective communication & data sharing.

How will it be useful:-

(1) It can help guard even the unfenced areas and difficult terrain like mountains, rivulets etc. where human interface is difficult.
(2) Through use of aerial surveillance, a larger area can be covered.
(3) Communication system will also different border security forces to share information.
(4) It can prove useful for countries with whom we have open borders (g. Nepal).

CIBMS can go a long way in strengthening our border security measures.

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2. To deal with myriad challenges of 'Behavioural Microtargeting' and 'Psychographic Messaging', analyse the need for having a robust data protection framework in India. **(150 words) 10**

'बिहेवियरल माइक्रोटार्गेटिंग' तथा 'साइकोग्रैफिक मेसेजिंग' ('व्यवहारात्मक सूक्ष्म-लक्ष्यीकरण' और 'मनोवृत्तिपरक संदेशन') की असंख्य चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए, भारत में एक सुदृढ़ डेटा संरक्षण ढांचे की आवश्यकता का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The emerging threats like 'Blue Whale' game, 'Momo game' etc point to a horrendous trend of 'Behavioural Microtargeting' and 'Psychographic Messaging' in which vulnerable individuals are targeted and are threatened to perform various tasks which often culminate in their death/suicide.

The information ~~on~~ about such individual is usually collected from publicly available data on social networking sites like Facebook. Their activity are monitored and analysed and their the vulnerable ones are separated and targeted.

To deal with this phenomena, it is essential to have a robust data protection framework.

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Need :-

① Data servers of most of these social networking sites are located outside India. Thus, data localisation framework is needed to be implemented.

② To protect the sensitive data of the citizens which are often misused by the companies. Eg. Cambridge Analytica scandal of facebook.

③ It is necessary to attribute precision threats to the perpetrators who are often difficult to trace.

④ It can help people to prevent their vulnerable data to be misused..

B.N. Srikrishna Committee's recommendations for establishing a robust data protection framework in India needs to be implemented expeditiously.

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3. In comparison to conventional warfare, the possibility of successful deterrence against cyber warfare is both limited and complicated. Discuss. Also, elaborate upon India's preparedness in this regard. **(150 words) 10**

पारंपरिक युद्ध की तुलना में, साइबर युद्ध के विरुद्ध सफल भयादोहन (निवारण) की संभावना सीमित और जटिल दोनों है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में भारत की तैयारियों का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Cyber space has emerged as a new threat and has been labelled as the 5th dimension of warfare. However, the challenges it presents are much more complicated than conventional warfare.

Why cyber deterrence is difficult:-

1. Data localisation. Most of the servers of companies like Facebook, Twitter etc. is located outside India.
2. Difficult to attribute precision threats to hackers/ other countries
3. Lack of training of security personnel to deal with cyber threats.
4. Substandard devices and softwares being used by people
5. Widespread digital illiteracy combined with increasing penetration of smart phones and internet.

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⑥ Tendency to believe any online news / information as true without ascertaining its validity.

India's preparedness

① Institutional measures:-

→ NCIIPC (National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre) for securing critical information

→ CERT-in : to coordinate response to cyber-security threats.

→ NIC-CERT : to prevent attacks on government websites.

② Legislative

→ National Cyber Policy, 2013

→ IT Act, 2000

③ International

→ Agreements with countries like US for cyber-security and data protection.

Though we have taken various steps to ensure cyber security, more efforts are needed in this regard.

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4. Given India's complex security challenges, UAVs have the potential to aid the Indian armed forces on multiple fronts. Explain. **(150 words) 10**

भारत की जटिल सुरक्षा चुनौतियों को देखते हुए, UAVs में कई मोर्चों पर भारतीय सशस्त्र बलों की सहायता करने की क्षमता है। व्याख्या कीजिए।

UAVs or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles are airborne devices that can be remotely operated. They come in variety of shapes and sizes and are used for a number of purposes like security, weather forecast, research, surveillance etc.

Due to increase in non-conventional threats of warfare and evolving cutting-edge technology, the traditional security measures have become outdated and are inadequate to deal with such threats.

UAVs, in this scenario, can emerge as a reliable instrument to aid armed forces for enhanced security.

How UAVs will aid armed forces?

(1) Border security: Through patrolling and

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surveillance of unfenced areas and difficult terrain like mountains, rivers.

(2) 24x7 surveillance as they are remotely operated

(3) Increased range of surveillance along with increased efficiency through use of night-vision, radar technology etc

(4) Can help in secure communication between armed forces.

(5) With deployment of weapons, they can save human lives by taking on enemy target.

(6) Intelligence gathering as they can enter adversary's territory through aerial route

UAVs have immense potential to enhance our national security. Effective policies must be formulated in this regard.

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5. Although open borders facilitate cultural continuity & greater interaction, their security implications cannot be undermined. Discuss the statement in context of India's open border policy with Nepal & Bhutan. **(150 words) 10**

यद्यपि खुली सीमाएं सांस्कृतिक निरंतरता एवं उत्कृष्ट अंतःक्रिया की सुविधा प्रदान करती हैं, लेकिन इनके सुरक्षा निहितार्थों को कम करके नहीं आँका जा सकता है। नेपाल और भूटान के साथ भारत की खुली सीमा नीति के संदर्भ में इस कथन की चर्चा कीजिए।

India has open borders with Nepal and Bhutan which implies free movement of people and goods on both sides of border.

Benefits of open borders :-

1. Increased people-to-people interaction.
2. Allows maintainence of kinship and traditional ties with family members on other side of border.
3. Cultural cooperation and continuity
4. Fast movement of goods without time and cost delays.
5. Builds trust and good relations among countries.

However open borders also pose a significant security threat as :-

1. Smuggling of goods like cattle, electronics

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etc. into India.

(2) Allows illegal immigrants to stay which affects demographic profile of states (especially north-East) and further scarcity of resources

(3) Trafficking of humans and drugs

(4) Provides safe havens for terrorists and criminals who commit crime in India and escape through open borders.

(5) facilitates insurgent groups like NSCN-K, ULFA etc. to establish their bases in other countries and carry insurgent activities in India.

There is a need for enhanced border security for open borders so that they don't become a conduit for anti-India activities.

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6. What is the role played by Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) in border management? Also, elaborating on the problems of infrastructural deficiencies and poor personnel management faced by CAPF, suggest remedies to tackle these issues. **(150 words) 10**

सीमा प्रबंधन में केन्द्रीय सशस्त्र पुलिस बल (CAPFs) कौन-सी भूमिका का निर्वहन करते हैं? साथ ही, CAPFs द्वारा सामना की जा रही अवसंरचना संबंधी कमियों और ख़राब कार्मिक प्रबंधन की समस्याओं का सविस्तार वर्णन करते हुए, इन मुद्दों से निपटने के उपाय सुझाइए।

The CAPF plays a vital role in guarding our borders.

Issues faces by them

(1) Infrastructural deficiency → due to lack of proper defence equipments and outdated weapons.

(2) Thankless nature of job with harsh working conditions

(3) Personnel management → Reports of seniors misbehaving with juniors etc.

Remedial measures:-

(1) Proper allotment of defence equipment and weapons combined with modernisation

(2) Provision for leaves and better health and other facilities.

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The CAPF are essential to guard our borders and thus protecting our national security. They must have good working conditions so they don't feel aggrieved.

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7. Analyse the impact that the instability in the wider South Asian region has on India's internal security. What steps can be taken to minimise such impact? **(150 words) 10**

विस्तृत दक्षिण एशियाई क्षेत्र में अस्थिरता का भारत की आंतरिक सुरक्षा पर पड़ने वाले प्रभावों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। ऐसे प्रभावों के अल्पीकरण हेतु क्या कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं?

One of the major external threats that impinge our ~~nat~~ internal security is the instability in the South Asian region.

Examples:-

1. Rohingya crisis in Myanmar
2. Political volatility in countries like Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan.
3. Taliban's activities in Afghanistan

Impact on India's internal security

1. Immigration → as in Rohingya crises which can lead to nefarious elements entering India's borders.
2. leads to terrorism ~~and~~ and terror attacks on India
3. Can result in youth radicalisation
4. become a breeding ground of anti-India terror groups like Al-Qaeda. ~~Taliban~~

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(5) Unfavourable regimes ~~can~~ that can threaten India's security.

Steps to minimize the impact

(1) Proactive steps to resolve such instability if possible, eg-> Afghanistan Peace Talks.

(2) Bilateral talks, MOUs etc. with neighbouring countries to ensure their instability doesn't spill over to India.

(3) Enhanced border security and patrolling

(4) International cooperation to weed out the evil of terrorism.

The stability of its neighbourhood is vital for India's own security interests.

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8. Deployment of central armed forces in states has been a contentious issue. Mention the issues involved and suggest some remedial measures.

(150 words) 10

राज्यों में केंद्रीय सशस्त्र बलों की तैनाती एक विवादास्पद मुद्दा रहा है। इसमें सम्मिलित मुद्दों का उल्लेख कीजिए और कुछ सुधारात्मक उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

States have often viewed the deployment of central armed forces like CAPF (Central Armed Police Force) in states with suspicion

Issues :-

(1) State List : Law and order and police are subjects under State list and thus States see the depolyment of CAPF as encroachment on their autonomy.

(2) Turf wars : between local police and CAPF which prevents effective coordination and cooperation.

(3) Non-Involvement of locals and trust deficit as they are often viewed by central armed forces with suspicion.

(4) Reports of human rights violations by armed forces (especially in North East) and draconian laws like AFSPA.

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There is a need to balance our security concern with the needs of locals and concerns of states.

Way forward

1. Deployment of central forces after taking states into confidence.
2. Deployment only at times and in areas where absolutely necessary.
3. Evolving a framework for effective coordination between local police and central forces.
4. Trust building measures with locals.

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9. In what ways does the physiography of India pose a challenge to its counter-terrorism efforts? What can be done to deal with these challenges? **(150 words) 10**

भारत की भूआकृति किस प्रकार इसके आतंकवाद विरोधी प्रयासों के समक्ष एक चुनौती प्रस्तुत करती है? इन चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए क्या किया जा सकता है?

India has a complex and varying physiography. inter-twined with mountains, plateaus, rivers, streams and sea on 3 sides.

How does physiography affects India's counter terrorism efforts

(1) In North → there are elevated mountains which are often inaccessible to security forces and serve as safe havens for terrorists.

(2) Snowy peaks ~~an~~ valleys and cold temperatures in J&K make fighting ~~counter~~ terrorism difficult.

(3) Central India is interspersed with dense forest which serve as hiding grounds for extremists.

(4) ~~V~~ Valleys and ravines like Chambal Valley often emerge as den of criminal activities.

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(5) Being surrounded by sea on three sides makes India vulnerable to maritime terrorism and piracy. Eg. 2008 Mumbai attacks.

Steps to deal with these challenges:-

(1) Effective use of technology, like drones, CCTV cameras etc.

(2) Involvement of locals as they can provide valuable intelligence and info regarding the physiography.

(3) Forming specialised units like Greyhounds, Bastariya Battalion which are adept with the local physiography

(4) Strategic deployment of troops to protect more vulnerable areas.

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10. What are the components of India's Ballistic Missile Defence System? Also, discuss how a Ballistic Missile Defence System enhances India's strategic options. **(150 words) 10**

भारत की बैलिस्टिक मिसाइल डिफेंस सिस्टम के घटक कौन-से हैं? साथ ही, चर्चा कीजिए कि एक बैलिस्टिक मिसाइल डिफेंस सिस्टम किस प्रकार भारत के रणनीतिक विकल्पों को बढ़ाती है।

Ballistic Missile Defence System involves using a number of equipments, technology, missiles etc. to protect a country from incoming ballistic missiles.

Components of India's Ballistic Missile Defence System

1. Ground Missiles to foil such attack.
2. NETRA 'eye in the sky'
3. AAD - Advanced Air Defence system
4. Radar surveillance

How ballistic missile system enhances our ~~security~~ strategic options

1. It protects us from threats from hostile neighbours like China, Pakistan etc.
2. It allows independent pursuing of foreign

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policy irrespective of any pressures or threats.

③ It helps us protect our vital defence and industrial installations.

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11. Giving examples, elaborate how India's approach to becoming a net security provider in the Indian Ocean Region is taking shape. What are the challenges and opportunities associated with this approach? **(250 words) 15**

उदाहरण देते हुए, सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए कि किस प्रकार हिंद महासागर क्षेत्र में वास्तविक सुरक्षा प्रदाता (नेट सिक्यूरिटी प्रोवाइडर) बनने का भारत का दृष्टिकोण आकार ले रहा है। इस दृष्टिकोण से संबद्ध चुनौतियां एवं अवसर क्या हैं?

India is increasingly being perceived as a major player in the Indian Ocean Region and most of the countries of the Region also view India as a net security provider.

India's approach

① Establishing naval bases

→ Changi Naval Base at Singapore

→ Plan for joint development of a naval base with Maldives

→ Agalega at Mauritius

② International cooperation

→ Multilateral associations like IORA (Indian Ocean Rim Association)

→ Bilateral treaties and MoUs with various countries (eg. Agreement for Logistics Exchange with France)

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→ SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in Region)

(3) Countering non-traditional security threats like ~~mir~~ maritime terrorism, piracy etc.

(4) Increasing its credibility through strengthening its naval presence in the Indian Ocean Region.

Opportunities:-

(1) ~~Chi~~ Due to China's aggressive tactics, India is being sought as a balancing power in the Region.

(2) Friendly relations with countries in Indian Ocean like Maldives, Mauritius etc.

(3) Increasing global recognition of its role (eg US-Indo-Pacific strategy highlights India's importance in securing a safe Indo-Pacific)

(4) Agreements with ASEAN

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Challenges :-

① China already has a strong presence in the region and it will be difficult for India to usurp it.

② Lack of active involvement of India in past raises questions on its credibility

③ Outdated equipment being used by Navy

④ Inability to stop Mumbai attacks, 2008 where terrorists came from sea route

There is an increasing global consensus on the important role that India can play in the security of Indian Ocean Region. India must build upon this recognition and chalk out effective strategies to counter traditional and non-traditional threats in the region.

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12. The UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) has pitched for the need of an integrated approach in order to address the difficulties in preventing, detecting, investigating and prosecuting Transnational Organised Crimes (TOC). Elaborating on these difficulties, discuss how an integrated approach can help in tackling TOCs. **(250 words) 15**

पार-राष्ट्रीय संगठित अपराधों (ट्रांसनेशनल ऑर्गनाइज्ड क्राइम्स: TOCs) को रोकने, पता लगाने, जाँच करने और अभियोजित करने में आने वाली कठिनाइयों से निपटने के लिए UNODC (यूनाइटेड नेशंस ऑफिस ऑन ड्रग एंड क्राइम्स) ने एक एकीकृत दृष्टिकोण की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया है। इन कठिनाइयों का सविस्तार वर्णन करते हुए, चर्चा कीजिए कि किस तरह एक एकीकृत दृष्टिकोण से TOCs से निपटने में सहायता मिल सकती है।

Transnational organised crimes refer to those crimes where the network of criminals is spread in many countries and they give effect to their criminal activities in a systematic, organised and coordinated manner.

Drug Trafficking, money laundering etc are examples of transnational Organised Crimes (TOC).

Difficulties in dealing with TOCs

① Lack of coordinated approach among the security forces of various countries.

② No proper framework for intelligence and data sharing.

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(3) Differing definitions of crime in different countries and different punishments for the same

(4) Problems in extradition of criminals and repatriation of crime proceeds

(5) Focus on singular events or criminals rather than trying to disrupt the entire network of crime

(6) Free / Open borders between some countries which allows criminals to escape through borders to different countries

(7) Lack of a multilateral institution which can chalk out effective policies and lay down principles for detection and prevention of such crimes.

The success of FATF (Financial Action Task Force) shows that international cooperation and coordination can play a major role in curbing TOCs. This needs to be applied to other TOCs as well.

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benefits of an integrated approach

(1) Common definition of crime, common policies and common approach will eliminate safe havens for such criminals.

(2) Through effective coordination and cooperation between security agencies, singular efficient strikes can be made to disrupt the entire crime networks.

(3) Faster extradition and repatriation leading to fast processing of such cases.

(4) Data and intelligence sharing which has potential to disrupt entire networks of criminals.

TOCs need integrated ~~inter~~ ~~and~~ multilateral approach for effectively dealing with them. Proper framework must be built by global community in this regard.

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13. With changes in technology, financial frauds are taking the shape and modalities of organized crime. Discuss the implications of such a trend and suggest a holistic approach to develop a sound fraud management system in India. **(250 words) 15**

प्रौद्योगिकी में बदलाव के साथ, वित्तीय धोखाधड़ियाँ संगठित अपराध के आकार एवं तौर-तरीके ग्रहण कर रही हैं। ऐसी प्रवृत्ति के निहितार्थों की चर्चा कीजिए और भारत में एक सुदृढ़ धोखाधड़ी प्रबंधन प्रणाली विकसित करने के लिए एक समग्र दृष्टिकोण सुझाइए।

The increasing number of financial frauds in recent years shows that financial frauds have evolved as a new category of organised crimes.

Implications of this trend :-

1. Increased vulnerability of financial institutions like banks
2. Threat to the savings as well as important data of citizens.
3. Loss of public trust in public institutions and government at large.
4. Has implications for security and stability of the country at political and economic level.
5. Trend of collusion in which employees of such institutions are also involved.

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This can harm the work environment and increase trust deficit among co-workers.

(6) Will lead to shift in savings from banks to other avenues. This can affect investment and have disastrous consequences for country's GDP.

A holistic approach to counter such frauds

(1) Encourage the companies/banks where such frauds have taken place to speak up. Often they are reluctant to disclose due to fear of loss of credibility.

(2) Dormant accounts in all banks must be closed at once.

(3) Proper KYC norms to be followed.

(4) For security of citizen's data, a robust data protection system must be used by all financial institutions.

(5) Coordinated approach involving security

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agencies, intelligence units and financial institutions to prevent such frauds

(6) International cooperation and data sharing through platforms like SWIFT

Financial frauds have the potential to disrupt the economy as well as political stability of a country. A holistic approach is needed to tackle this menace.

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14. Give an account of the challenges related to recruitment in, legal status and accountability of, and coordination amongst intelligence agencies that need to be addressed to handle threats to national security. **(250 words) 15**

आसूचना एजेंसियों में भर्ती, उनकी कानूनी स्थिति और जवाबदेही तथा उनके बीच समन्वय से संबंधित चुनौतियों का एक विवरण दीजिए, जिन्हें राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा के सम्मुख खतरों से निपटने के लिए दूर किए जाने की आवश्यकता है।

Intelligence agencies form one of the main pillars of a country's national security. India has various intelligence agencies like RAW, IB, CBI, CID etc which assist in national security.

Challenges faced by intelligence agencies

① Recruitment

→ No proper framework of recruitment

→ ~~at~~ Recruitment is often lateral through existing police force or bureaucrat

→ Due to lack of entry at initial stage, expertise and training can't be effectively imparted.

→ The secretive nature of agencies like RAW pose challenge to recruitment.

② Legal status & accountability

→ Most of intelligence agencies don't have

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a proper legal framework. Eg CBI is not a statutory body. ~~and desi~~

→ There are differing accountability mechanisms which prevent proper functioning. Some intelligence agencies are directly answerable to Home Ministry, others to bodies like CVC (eg. CBI) etc.

③ Coordination

→ There is lack of coordination among different intelligence agencies that affects their functioning.

→ There is no proper intelligence sharing framework;

→ There are often turf wars between various agencies and between them and police.

→ Duplication of efforts as lack of proper demarcation of areas between various agencies.

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Way forward

→ Enacting a proper legislative framework for establishment and delineation of role among different agencies

→ Recruitment process needs to be ~~Streat~~ streamlined and made more effective.

→ Proper division of spheres of influence between different agencies to avoid turf wars and duplication.

→ Proper data sharing and intelligence sharing framework for effective coordination.

The intelligence agencies are essential to our nation's security and these reforms will go a long way in improving their functioning and outcomes.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

15. While nuclear weapons and traditional military capability remain the options of last resort, dealing with subconventional and proxy warfare requires enhanced measures given the nature of persistent threat. Discuss

(250 words) 15

जहां परमाणु हथियार और पारंपरिक सैन्य क्षमता अंतिम उपाय का विकल्प बने हुए हैं, वहीं उप-परंपरागत और छद्म युद्ध से निपटने के लिए स्थायी खतरे की प्रकृति को देखते हुए संवर्धित उपायों की आवश्यकता है।

In the modern era, countries generally don't resort to traditional warfare and usage of weapons of mass destruction. Rather ~~nuclear~~ subconventional and proxy warfare is used.

How to deal with these emerging challenges

① Cybersecurity - A robust cybersecurity framework must be present to protect critical information infrastructure and citizens' data.

② Effective border management to prevent infiltration of terrorists and insurgents.

③ Proper coordination among intelligence agencies, police and armed forces

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(4) Military modernisation and development of modern, sophisticated weaponry.

(5) Effective use of technology like drones, radar, CCTV.

(6) International cooperation along with proper framework to deal with transnational organised crimes.

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

16. The Government has adopted a holistic approach built around simultaneous implementation of a security agenda, developmental activities and promotion of good governance to address the Left Wing Extremism in India. Comment. **(250 words) 15**

सरकार ने भारत में वामपंथी उग्रवाद (लेफ्ट विंग एक्सट्रीमिज़्म) से निपटने के लिए सुरक्षा एजेंडे, विकास संबंधी गतिविधियों और सुशासन के प्रचार-प्रसार के समकालिक कार्यान्वयन के चारों ओर निर्मित एक समग्र दृष्टिकोण अपनाया है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Left Wing Extremism has been often ~~duff~~ dubbed as ~~the~~ biggest ~~threat~~ to India's internal security.

However in recent years there are been a decrease in the districts affected (from 106 to 90), decrease in military and civilian casualities (by more than 30%) and overall improvement in situation. This is a result of various initiatives taken by government to tackle this menace.

Government's ~~&~~ approach

It has adopted a holistic multipronged approach based on 3 main pillars → security, development and good governance. The elements of this approach are:-

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(1) Security
→ Forming of specialized units like Greyhounds, Bastariya Battalion etc.
→ Increased deployment of security forces in Naxal affected areas.
→ Effective targeting of Naxal leaders to destroy their chain of command.
→ Rehabilitation schemes encouraging Naxals to give up arms.

(2) Development
→ Establishment of Mobile Towers (under Mobile Towers Scheme Phase - I & II)
→ Infrastructure development like roads, bridges etc.
→ Better employment opportunities for locals for generating economic growth.
→ Education and health facilities improved.

(2) Good governance
→ Schemes like Roshni to provide employment to local youth.
→ Increasing connect of people with government.

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→ Countering Maoist propaganda by government propaganda.

The government must carry on its multi-pronged approach in a full-fledged way. Recently, the Naxals are trying to resurge in southern state like Kerala. They must be stopped at the beginning itself.

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17. National security challenges, which are less traditional war threats but more diffused and ambiguous, can no longer be dealt with in silos. In this context, examine the need for having a National Security Strategy and also, highlight the challenges that the government faces in spelling out such a strategy. **(250 words) 15**

राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा चुनौतियां, जो कम परंपरागत युद्ध संबंधी खतरे हैं, लेकिन अधिक विस्तृत और अस्पष्ट हैं, उनसे अब पृथक्करण प्रक्रिया के तहत नहीं निबटा जा सकता है। इस संदर्भ में, राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा रणनीति की आवश्यकता का परीक्षण कीजिए और साथ ही, ऐसी रणनीति के निरूपण में सरकार के सामने आ रही चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

The dawn of 21st century has seen the emergence of new non-traditional threats to a nation's security. Rather than resorting to the traditional warfare, more and more countries are resorting to cyberspace to impinge upon an adversary's security.

Emerging threats

→ Cyberspace has been declared as the 5th dimension of warfare.
(Recently US NSA noted that Chinese hackers were hacking India's computers and establishments)

→ Modern equipments and infrastructure.

→ Instead of threats being singular, they often emerge as a coordinated

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and combined threat and thus can't be tackled in the conventional way.

Need for a National Security Strategy

→ To deal with emerging threats like cyberspace.

→ To coordinate the efforts of various agencies and bodies involved - police, all 3 armed forces and intelligence agencies.

→ To address the security threats as a unified whole ~~&~~ and have a common approach rather than dealing with them singularly.

Difficulties in fully out this strategy

① Police and law and order are in domain of states and they may be reluctant to give their control over this.

② Turf wars between various intelligence agencies, police, armed forces etc. that prevents effective coordination

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(8) ~~Lack~~ Lacking in cyber expertise which is essential to counter such threats.

• To deal with the emerging national security challenges, a National Security Strategy is a must.

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18. Highlighting the need for SMART policing in India, suggest some administrative, legislative and technological reforms in order to realize this vision. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में SMART पुलिसिंग की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, इस दृष्टि को साकार करने के लिए कुछ प्रशासनिक, विधायी और तकनीकी सुधारों का सुझाव दीजिए।

There is a dire need for police reforms in India as our police forces are still governed by archaic rules and haven't gone adequate modernisation to deal with emerging complex challenges.

SMART policing aims to establish a police force that is smart and sensitive, responsive, modern, and transparent.

Need for SMART Policing

(1) Overburdened police force - We only have 137 policemen per lakh population against the UN sanctioned strength of 222.

(2) Excessive political interference which affects independent functioning and decision-making of police force.

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(3) Problems of constabulary :- They are not trained in soft skills. Moreover, their work conditions are extremely thankless and stressful.

(4) Public perception of police as a trouble-maker rather than trouble-shooter.

(5) Inefficiency due to lack of training and no separation of investigation police.

(6) Lack of forensic labs, research and training facilities which hamper investigation.

Reforms needed

(1) Administrative :-

→ Establish a State Security Commission to formulate policy decisions regarding appointments, posting, transfers of police.

→ Key functionaries like DGP, SP etc. must have minimum tenure of 2 years.

→ Establishment of Police Welfare Board

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to look into welfare and living conditions of police force.
→ Reduce political interference to allow independent decision-making

(2) Legislative
→ Model Police Act, 2006 must be enacted by all states in letter and spirit
→ The suggestions of Supreme Court in Prakash Singh Case must be implemented.

(3) Technological
→ CCTNS : Crime and Criminal Tracking & Networking System to be expeditiously implemented in all police stations.
→ Use of social media for ~~cat~~ tracking of crimes and help for citizens.

To deal with modern-day challenges and to shed the colonial overhang, the reforms in police force are a must.

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19. Discuss the reasons behind private sector playing a merely peripheral role in defence manufacturing in India. Also, explain how the Draft Defence Production Policy, 2018 seeks to augment private sector participation in defence manufacturing in India. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में रक्षा विनिर्माण के क्षेत्र में निजी क्षेत्रक द्वारा अत्यंत गौण भूमिका निभाने के पीछे उत्तरदायी कारणों की चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, व्याख्या कीजिए कि किस प्रकार ड्राफ्ट डिफेंस प्रोडक्शन पॉलिसी, 2018 (रक्षा उत्पादन नीति मसौदा, 2018) भारत में रक्षा विनिर्माण के क्षेत्र में निजी क्षेत्रक की भागीदारी बढ़ाना चाहती है।

India is the largest importer of conventional arms in the world. One of the major reasons behind our import dependence in defence is the lack of effective participation of private sector in defence manufacturing:

Reasons behind low participation of private sector

(1) Most of the Defence PSUs are represented by government officials which leads to going of red in their way.

(2) Trust deficit between government and private sector. The ~~gov~~ private sector views the entire defence manufacturing environment as non-conducive

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(3) Doubt in capabilities of private sector which ensures that they don't get major projects.

(4) Defence manufacturing being a capital-intensive sector, it is doubtful if private sector will be able to provide the requisite capital.

(5) Lack of cutting-edge technology and research facilities with the private sector.

(6) Lack of enabling policies to encourage private sector participation.

The Draft Defence Procurement Policy, 2018 ~~aims to~~ envisions a major role for the private sector in defence manufacturing in India.

Provisions :-

(1) Preference to the 2 Make categories over ~~the~~ Buy 'Global' category.

(2) Highest preference to Buy - ~~Indian~~ IDDM

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(Indigenously designed and Manufactured) category which involves at least 40% indigenous manufacture.

(3) Defines Indian vendor as any entity or person residing in India or registered under Companies Act.

(4) For start-ups, it simplifies procedures leading to lower compliance costs.

(5) Medium and small firms ~~also~~ have to deal with lower compliance norms.

For India to reduce its import dependence and to become self-reliant in defence ~~production~~ manufacture, effective participation of private sector is a must.

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20. Discuss the implications of insufficient allocation of funds on capacity building, modernisation & operational preparedness of the defence forces in India. Also, suggest necessary steps to maintain & augment defence capabilities in India. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में रक्षा बलों के क्षमता निर्माण, आधुनिकीकरण और सामरिक तैयारियों पर अपर्याप्त निधि आवंटन के निहितार्थों की चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में रक्षा क्षमताएं बनाए रखने और बढ़ाने के लिए आवश्यक कदम सुझाइए।

India's ambition to become a global power largely depends on the strength and preparedness of its defence forces. However, ~~inaffi~~ insufficient fund allocation has prevented adequate modernisation and strengthening of India's defence forces.

Implications ~~for~~ of insufficient fund allocation

① Poor equipment and infrastructure, most of which have become outdated.

② Serious shortage of defence equipment in all the 3 wings: Army, Navy and Air force.

③ China's growing military might which poses a threat to India in absence of sufficient capacity building and modernisation.

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(4) Most of the allocated budget for defence goes for salaries and pensions (83%) leaving very little for defence modernization

(5) Internal security threats like Left-Wing terrorism, insurgency in North-East and Kashmir etc. which haven't died down despite persistent efforts.

Steps to be taken

(1) Increased budget allocation → from currently 2% to 2.5% of GDP. Also allocation for salaries, pension etc. mustn't exceed 60% of the allocation.

(2) Expedited acquisition of defence equipment like fighter jets etc.

(3) Increased role of private sector in defence manufacture which can reduce our import dependence

(4) Revitalisation of Defence PSUs as most of them suffer from poor capacity and sluggishness.

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(5) Reforming the ~~ste~~ hierarchical structure for faster decision-making.

To counter security threats as well as to maintain its global credibility, India needs to take aforementioned steps for enhancing its defence capabilities.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1063)

Name of Candidate	Shrutha-Anupam		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English		
Center		Registration Number	37549
		Date	26/12/18

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें **बीस** प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

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5.

6.

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1. Explaining the significance of RCEP, discuss various aspects of India's engagement in this initiative. (150 words) 10

RCEP के महत्व की व्याख्या करते हुए, इस पहल में भारत की सहभागिता के विभिन्न पहलुओं पर चर्चा कीजिए।

RCEP is a proposed comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the 10 ASEAN member and their 6 FTA ~~in~~ partners – India, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand.

Significance of RCEP

→ It represents over 40% of world's population and around 30% of world's GDP and trade.

→ It will significantly boost trade in the region ~~by~~.

→ Improved South - South cooperation.

→ It will allow countries to better utilize their strengths (eg. services sector of India) while increasing their export and trade potential.

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Aspects of India's engagement

→ India is sceptical about signing RCEP as it can lead to huge influx of chinese goods in Indian markets.

→ India wants an Agreement on Services to be simultaneously signed with agreement on goods as India can benefit from increased access to its services sector.

→ Japan's proposed TRIPS+ framework is also a concern for India as it can pose danger to India's generic medicines market.

The member countries of the proposed RCEP must work out their concerns amicably so that the partnership is mutually beneficial to all.

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2. It has been acknowledged widely that smart power is the best possible way for achieving intended foreign policy outcomes. Examine in the context of India. (150 words) 10

यह व्यापक रूप से स्वीकार किया गया है कि स्मार्ट पावर विदेश नीति के अपेक्षित परिणामों को प्राप्त करने का सर्वोत्तम संभव तरीका है। भारत के संदर्भ में इसका परीक्षण कीजिए।

Smart power represents a judicious mix of hard power and soft power. It significantly improves a country's maneuverability and yields rich foreign policy dividends.

India has stressed on and utilized smart power in its foreign policy which can be seen as:-

Hard Power: in form of surgical strikes in Pakistan, Doklam stand-off etc

Soft Power:-

→ International recognition and acceptance of Yoga, Ayurveda etc.

→ Project Mausam

→ Development assistance to its

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neighbours like Bhutan, Afghanistan etc.
→ forging ties with countries (like Africa, West Asia etc) based on shared history and culture.

Move from Idealism to Realism

→ De-hyphenation of ties with Israel and Palestine
→ Maintaining good ties with both Russia and USA.

The prudent use of smart power has yielded significant returns for India in past as well as contemporary times. Its continued usage will further accentuate India's position in global order.

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3. On the one hand, water has the potential of bringing closer regional integration in South Asia, on the other it has remained symbolic of the trust deficit between the countries in India's neighbourhood. Analyse. (150 words) 10

जहां एक ओर, जल में दक्षिण एशिया में क्षेत्रीय एकीकरण को और अधिक घनिष्ठ बनाने की क्षमता है, वहीं दूसरी ओर यह भारत के पड़ोसी देशों के बीच विश्वास की कमी का प्रतीक रहा है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The various inter-state rivers in South Asia have resulted in a myriad of complex relationship between nations ranging from cooperation to conflict.

Points of conflict:-

→ China's purported dam-building and water-diversion of Brahmputra which poses threat to India.

→ Continued disputes between India and Pakistan despite signing of Indus-Water Treaty.

→ Teesta River dispute between India and Bangladesh.

→ China's refusal to share hydrological data, except in monsoon

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Potential for closer integration.

→ Mekong- Ganga Cooperation → to promote improved ties b/w among people living along these 2 civilisational rivers.

→ Common sacrilege provided to rivers like Ganga in both India and Nepal.

→ Cultural ties among people living along the banks of these rivers.

The potential of these inter state rivers to improve ties between South Asian countries must be utilized. Some required steps are:-

① Implementation of a Trans-Himalayan framework for all Himalayan rivers.

② Better and transparent data-sharing between nations.

③ Upper riparian states must be mindful of interests of lower riparian states.

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4. Despite a strong case for a Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) between India and the European Union (EU), negotiations have been stuck for long owing to multiple factors. Analyse. (150 words) 10

भारत और यूरोपीय संघ (EU) के बीच व्यापक आधार वाले व्यापार और निवेश समझौते (ब्रॉडबेस्ड ट्रेड एंड इन्वेस्टमेंट अग्रीमेंट: BTIA) हेतु सुदृढ़ परिस्थितियां होने के बावजूद कई कारकों के चलते वार्ता लम्बे समय से अटकी हुयी है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Negotiations for a Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) between India and EU are on ~~f~~ since 2007. However multiple reasons ~~haste~~ led to sluggish progress on the Agreement's negotiations like:-

~~Rea~~ ① EU wants India to remove tariffs on its motorcycles import which India is reluctant to concede.

② Indian pharmaceuticals are seeking a bigger market in EU.

③ Issues related to IPR protection.

④ India's service sector exports are demanding a larger market which EU is not ready to give.

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The proposed BTIA will be beneficial for both ~~countries~~ India & EU. Thus concerns of both must be mutually assuaged.

How BTIA will be beneficial for both

→ Larger market for both India and EU

→ Can further boost India - EU trade which currently stands around 126 billion ~~$~~ USD.

→ Employment for India's service personnel in EU

→ Can allow both to utilize each other's expertise in manufacturing and services.

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5. Non-alignment, though much debated, has retained its significance over the years in India's foreign policy engagements. Comment. (150 words) 10

गुट-निरपेक्षता ने काफी विवादित होने के बावजूद भारत की विदेश नीति संबंधी विषयों में वर्षों से अपना महत्व बनाए रखा है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

The policy of non-alignment was adopted by India soon after its independence. It implied not aligning with any of the two powerblocs - the US and USSR at that time.

Significance of non-alignment for India

→ Allowed India to emerge as a leader of third-world developing countries.

→ has led to increase in India's stature globally with many countries following India's example in non-alignment.

→ Has allowed India to maintain good ties with both US and Russia.

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→ Allows India to take foreign policy decisions independently without pressure from outside.

→ Helps India to forge meaningful relationships with other countries based on solely merit.

→ Provides credibility to India's demand for a Permanent seat of UN Security Council.

Thus despite debates that non-alignment has lost its relevance, it continues to be a cornerstone of India's foreign policy.

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6. India–Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship, 1950 forms the bedrock of the India-Nepal relations. However, considering recent changes in the region, revising the treaty would be a prudent step. Analyse. (150 words) 10

भारत-नेपाल शांति एवं मैत्री संधि, 1950 भारत-नेपाल संबंधों की आधारशिला निर्मित करती है। यद्यपि, इस क्षेत्र में हाल में हुए परिवर्तनों पर विचार करते हुए, इस संधि में संशोधन करना एक विवेकपूर्ण कदम होगा। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

India and Nepal share close historical and cultural ties which formed the bases for signing the India-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship, 1950.

Provisions of Treaty

→ Provides non-discriminatory treatment to Nepal's citizens in India in terms of education, employment, residence etc.

→ Nepal has to consult India before any defence deals or establishing military relations with any other country.

→ It prevents usage of each other's territory in a manner that can be detrimental to other's interests.

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Why revision in Treaty is required

① It is outdated, signed way back in 1950. Geo-political scenario has changed a lot.

② Popular resentment in Nepal against provisions which they feel are a threat to Nepal's sovereignity.

③ Leads to accusation of 'big-brotherly attitude' by Nepal on India

India must respect the popular demand in Nepal for the revision of the Treaty. Also the Treaty must be revised to take into account the changed geo-political scenario.

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7. Accession to the Ashgabat agreement is valuable for connecting India to its extended neighbourhood. What is the Ashgabat Agreement? Assess its significance for India. (150 words) 10

अश्गाबात समझौते में शामिल होना वस्तुतः भारत के लिए अपने विस्तारित पड़ोस से जुड़ने की दृष्टि से मूल्यवान है। अश्गाबात समझौता क्या है? भारत के लिए इसके महत्व का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

The Ashgabat Agreement has been signed of between India and Central Asian countries. It aims to improve connectivity in the Central Asian region.

Significance of Ashgabat Agreement

→ Will lead to better connectivity between India and Central Asia. Presently, the connectivity is poor.

→ Will lead to improved bilateral trade and investment.

→ Stability in Central Asian region is vital for India.

→ Can help in meeting energy demands of India.

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→ Will help in reducing China's clout in the region.

A Signing the Aqhgabat Agreement will yield immense benefits for India in the long run.

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8. The peace initiative of the Afghan government has raised some difficulties for India, nonetheless India's engagement with Afghanistan is strong enough to withstand such difficulties. Discuss. (150 words) 10

अफगान सरकार की शांति पहल ने भारत के लिए कुछ कठिनाइयां उत्पन्न की हैं, इसके बावजूद भी अफगानिस्तान के साथ भारत की भागीदारी इस प्रकार की कठिनाइयों का सामना करने हेतु पर्याप्त रूप से सशक्त है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India and Afghanistan share close historical and cultural ties along with robust people-to-people connect.

Afghanistan has been grappling with the internal conflict with Taliban which has eroded the region's peace and stability. However the recent peace initiative of ~~Agf~~ Afghan government raises some concerns for India like:-

(1) It proposes bringing Taliban to discussion table which India is strictly against. India vouches for a 'Afghan-led, Afghan-owned' peace process.

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② India is skeptical about the role of Pakistan in the region.
③ The presence of extra-terrestrial ~~pla~~ regional players like US and Russia worries India.
④ An unstable solution can lead to security concerns in India. Thus India desires a lasting peace in Afghanistan.

However ~~In~~ Afghanistan also accords a central place to India in its peace process. Moreover, the development aid by India to Afghanistan and people-to-people contacts have led to a very positive popular perception about India. India must build on its relationship with Afghanistan while trying to bring peace swiftly to ~~it~~ the region.

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9. The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a natural choice for India to fulfill key foreign policy priorities. In this context, discuss the issues behind hitherto slow progress and the reasons for reinvigorated optimism regarding BIMSTEC. (150 words) 10

बहु-क्षेत्रीय तकनीकी एवं आर्थिक सहयोग के लिए बंगाल की खाड़ी पहल (BIMSTEC), भारत के लिए अपनी विदेश नीति संबंधी प्रमुख प्राथमिकताओं की पूर्ति हेतु एक स्वाभाविक चयन है। इस संदर्भ में, अब तक हुई धीमी प्रगति के पीछे निहित मुद्दों और BIMSTEC के संबंध में पुनर्जीवित होते आशावाद की चर्चा कीजिए।

BIMSTEC comprises 7 members - Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand and Sri Lanka.

Issues behind slow progress :-

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10. Highlighting its mandate, discuss the significance of International Solar Alliance in positioning India to a key global leadership role.

(150 words) 10

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सौर गठबंधन के अधिदेश पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, भारत को एक प्रमुख वैश्विक नेतृत्वकर्ता की भूमिका में स्थान दिलाने में इसके महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The International Solar Alliance was conceived by India and France on the sidelines of 2015 Paris Climate Summit.

~~The~~ It aims to promote rapid deployment of solar energy by the countries lies between the Tropics which receive abundant solar energy throughout the year.

Significance for India

→ It is the first inter-governmental treaty based alliance to be headquartered in India (in Gurugram)

→ It promotes India's position as a leader and forerunner in concept of solar ~~energy~~ energy in the world.

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→ It shows India's commitment towards meeting its Paris Climate Agreement commitments.

→ With US choosing to opt out of Paris deal, it helps fortify India's position as a strong ~~advocate~~ advocate for measures to ~~reduce~~ climate change.

→ It strengthens further India-France relationship.

The International Solar Alliance is an important international effort in the field of renewable (solar) energy. India must make the most of it and must redouble its efforts for increased deployment of solar power.

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11. India's engagement with its extended neighbourhood in West Asia has evolved into a 'Look West' approach in recent times. However, multiple faultlines in this volatile region require a balancing act on the part of India. Discuss. (250 words) 15

पश्चिम एशिया में अपने विस्तारित पड़ोस के साथ भारत की सहभागिता हाल के दिनों में 'लुक वेस्ट' दृष्टिकोण के रूप में विकसित हुई है। हालांकि, इस अस्थिर क्षेत्र में उपस्थित कई फॉल्टलाइन्स भारत की ओर से एक संतुलनकारी कार्यवाही की मांग करते हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

The West Asia comprises countries like Tajikistan, Kazakstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan etc. India considers them to be a part of its extended neighbourhood.

For better engagement with its West Asian partners, India had launched the 'Look West' Policy. The region also shares close historical ties with India.

Importance of West Asia for India

→ West Asia is rich in mineral reserves and energy sources than can alleviate India's energy security concerns.

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→ West Asia looks to India as a security partner & security provider in the region.

→ India has shared robust ties with West Asia over the years.

Challenges due to multiple faultlines in West Asia

→ Political uncertainities : as region is grapples with political instability.

→ Radicalisation and extremism among youth is on the rise.

→ Hotbed for terrorist organisations like ~~IS~~ Al-Qaeda.

→ Economically under-developed with lack of industries

→ Geographically bordering Russia and China ~~and~~ that can affect independent relations (with these countries.

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→ Connectivity issues - An airline between India & West Asia was only recently established.

Thus to engage more constructively with the region, India needs to play a balancing role in form of:-

→ Improving connectivity with the region through initiatives like International North-South Corridor.

→ Share its expertise in services sector with West Asia

→ Help in economic development of the region through development aid and infrastructure projects

→ Encourage people-to-people contacts

A well-coordinated policy approach with West Asia can yield rich dividends for India in the long run.

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12. While India and Russia have enjoyed good relations since the Soviet era, relying on the past may not be enough to deal with shift in the relationship in light of the rapidly evolving geopolitical realities. Comment. (250 words) 15

यद्यपि सोवियत युग से ही भारत और रूस के संबंध मधुर रहे हैं, तथापि अतीत पर निर्भरता तेजी से विकसित होती भू-राजनीतिक वास्तविकताओं के प्रकाश में, संबंधों में आये बदलाव से निपटने हेतु पर्याप्त नहीं भी हो सकती है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Though India and Russia have enjoyed extremely good ties in the past, the current geo-political scenario demands a more concerted approach than just leaning on the past.

Historically good ties;—

→ India & erstwhile USSR signed the Treaty of friendship in 1971 which was renewed with Russia in 1993.

→ Russia has supported us on all international forums.

→ We enjoy robust defence ties with Russia. 70% of India's defence equipment import comes from Russia.

→ Favourable public perception in both

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countries.

Evolving geopolitical realities and consequent shift in relationship

→ ~~Rus~~ China factor. → Russia has inclined towards China in recent times after US and EU imposed sanctions on it.

→ Improving US - India ties which Russia views with suspicion.

→ Diversification of India's defence equipment import with countries like US, Israel providing weapons too.

→ ~~the~~ Russia's improving military ties with Pakistan - joint exercises and providing equipment as well

→ Stagnation of bilateral trade

→

The changing geo-political realities mandate both countries to re-work their policy approach towards each other as they continue to be

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relevant and important for each other's needs.

Steps to be taken

→ India must convey to Russia that the strict in India-US ties isn't going to harm Russia in any way.

→ More informal summits (like Ufa in 2018) where heads of government can interact

→ More robust economic ties need to be developed and bilateral trade needs to be improved.

→ Continued support for each other in international fora.

India and Russia must ensure that their long-lasting relationship stands the test of time in this current geo-political scenario.

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13. India-China ties, marked by a broad convergence on transnational issues, on one hand and geostrategic rivalry on the other, have profound implications not only for the two countries but also the current international system. Discuss.

भारत-चीन संबंध, जो एक ओर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्दों पर व्यापक अभिसरण और दूसरी तरफ भू-रणनीतिक प्रतिद्वंद्विता द्वारा चिह्नित होते हैं, इसका न केवल इन दोनों देशों के लिए बल्कि वर्तमान अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रणाली के लिए भी गंभीर निहितार्थ हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। (250 words) 15

India-China relationship has seen both highs and lows and continues to remain complex

Areas of convergence

→ Climate change and implementation of Paris Agreement

→ Demand for a multipolar world

→ Agriculture and developing countries-related issues in WTO

→ Both want stability and peace in Afghanistan

Geostrategic rivalry

→ Border disputes in Aksai Chin and Arunachal Pradesh

→ China's alleged 'string of pearls' around India

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→ India refused to endorse BRI as it passes through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.
→ India's membership of Quad group
→ China's proximity with Pakistan

Both China and India are the fastest growing major economies and represent the next global superpowers. Their ties thus have major implications, both for them as well as international community at large.

Implications for India & China & global world.

→ India-China convergence can help in more emphatetic discussion on issues like multilateralism, climate change etc.

→ By ~~signing~~ finalisation of RCEP, it can lead to increased trade and

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prosperity among India-China as well as other members

→ With Indo-Pacific becoming the new economic centre of gravity, a greater role for both countries is envisaged.

→ Good ties between India and China can allow neighbourhood countries to seek meaningful assistance from both. (Eg: 2+1 mechanism with Nepal)

→ Better ties can help both to reduce border skirmishes and engage with each other more constructively on convergent issues.

India and China must try to sort out their differences and must work together on common issues. Both countries and the world at large stands to benefit from their good ties.

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14. For BRICS to remain relevant, its members must make a realistic assessment of the initiative's opportunities and inherent limitations. Discuss. (250 words) 15

BRICS की प्रासंगिकता बनाये रखने के लिए, इसके सदस्यों को इसे उपलब्ध अवसरों और अंतर्निहित सीमाओं का वास्तविक मूल्यांकन करना चाहिए। चर्चा कीजिए।

The acronym BRICS stands for Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (its 5 members). Its importance has seen a decline in recent years despite having a promising ~~poor~~ beginning.

Importance of BRICS / Opportunities it presents

→ It represents 5 major political and economic powers whose interests on various issues are aligned.

→ It advocates a multi-polar world instead of a uni-polar US.

→ It allows India and China to take common stand on issues affecting them, keeping their differences aside.

→ Helps articulate common economic interests which can be presented

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an international form like WTO.

Its limitations / Challenges :-

→ India - China's rivalry prevents the group from functioning effectively

→ Different strategic and economic interests of the members

→ Lack of a coherent approach with different members pursuing different objectives.

→ India, Brazil and South Africa prefer IBSA which they feel allows better articulation of their interests.

BRICS is an important grouping and its members will benefit from their continued cooperation. The issues that are plaguing BRICS need to be sorted out.

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15. Sluggish progress of the Doha round signals that the WTO is proving to be ineffective in promoting free trade. Identifying the factors behind this, comment on the relevance of WTO in present context. (250 words) 15

दोहा दौर की धीमी प्रगति संकेत करती है कि WTO, मुक्त व्यापार को प्रोत्साहित करने में अप्रभावी सिद्ध हो रहा है। इसके पीछे उत्तरदायी कारकों की पहचान करते हुए, वर्तमान संदर्भ में WTO की प्रासंगिकता पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

The WTO (World Trade Organisation) is getting ~~gg~~ questions raised regarding its effectiveness and the slow progress of Doha round agenda is a testimony to this.

Factors behind decreasing relevance of WTO

→ Protectionist policies being followed by countries like US that hampers free trade.

→ Rise of different multi-lateral trading agreements and groupings like RCEP, TPP etc.

→ Lack of consensus among developing and developed countries on major issues like subsidies, IPR etc.

→ Lack of teeth in the punitive

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measures that WTO employs.

→ Its sluggishness and near-failure as a effective dispute-settlement body.

continued

WTO's relevance:

→ It stands for rule-based multi-lateral trading system which is as relevant today as in past

→ Despite emergence of groupings like RCEP, TPP; it is still the largest such group with near-total membership

→ It allows a forum for developing and developed countries to sort out their differences while promoting a less trade-restrictive global order.

→ Through its 'one member, one vote' policy, it allows for consensus building and provides opportunity

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for every member to be based.
→ It has led to noticeable reduction in tariff regimes and trade barriers around the world.

Reforms to be taken in WTO

→ Faster implementation of Doha Round Agenda.
→ Evolving consensus on agricultural subsidies and TRIPS issue.
→ The Dispute Settlement Body needs to be made more effective
→ The punitive measures against non-complying nations must be made more stringent.

The WTO continues to be relevant today. However, to regain its lost stature in the world, it must expeditiously ~~implement~~ undertake some long-pending reforms.

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16. The India-France Strategic Partnership launched in 1998 seems to have finally come of age. Comment. (250 words) 15

1998 में आरंभ भारत-फ्रांस रणनीतिक साझेदारी, अंततः परिपक्व होती प्रतीत हो रही है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

India and France share traditionally close ties. France was the first country with which India signed a strategic partnership in 1998.

Areas of cooperation / Reason behind strong ties

① Defence
→ joint military exercises
→ France provides India with equipment like Rafale, Scorpene submarine etc.

② Economic
→ France is 9th biggest ~~inv~~ foreign investor in India.
→ India enjoys a trade surplus with France.

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③ International support:
→ France supported us after 1998 nuclear tests.
→ It publicly opposed US sanctions on India
→ It supports India's bid for NSG and UNSC permanent membership.

④ Energy
→ International Solar Alliance launched by both

⑤ Nuclear
→ Provides fuel for India's reactors
→ Has signed an MOU to build 6 nuclear reactors in India.

⑥ Space
→ Helped launch of many Indian satellites
→ Provided us with cryogenic engine technology.

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France and India continue to enjoy excellent ties. France intends to serve as a nodal point for India's interactions with European Union. The ties are further bolstered by bilateral visits at levels of Heads of State and convergence of agenda at international fora.

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17. Despite the great strides made, India-ASEAN relations have not measured up to expectations. Critically examine in the context of recent commemoration of relations by the two sides through the Delhi Declaration. (250 words) 15

उत्कृष्ट प्रगति के बावजूद, भारत-ASEAN संबंध अपेक्षाओं पर खरे नहीं उतरे हैं। दिल्ली घोषणापत्र के माध्यम से दोनों पक्षों द्वारा हाल ही में मनाये गए संबंधों के स्मरणोत्सव के संदर्भ में आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

India and ASEAN began formal relationship in 1992 when India was accorded the status of a Dialogue Partner. The relationship evolved to Strategic Partnership and then to Free Trade Agreement in goods and services.

Recently both sides commemorated 25 years of the formal establisment of relations and released the Delhi Declaration which envisages further cooperation and fast-tracking of negotiations on RCEP. However, India-ASEAN relations have yet to reach its potential and certain unresolved issues remain.

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Factors that prevent full-blooming of India-ASEAN relations

① RCEP still in negotiations → though it was taken up for discussion way back.

② Despite signing FTA, bilateral trade hasn't grown proportionately.

③ China factor → ~~Many memb~~ China has a defacto veto over any matter that affects its concerns

④ Diverging interests and policies of ASEAN members like Indonesia and Vietnam.

⑤ Difference in expertise → ASEAN specialises in manufacturing while India does in services.

⑥ People-to-people contact potential hasn't been utilized fully.

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Steps to be taken:—

1. Faster negotiation and finalisation of RCEP.
2. Sharing of ~~ex~~ mutual expertise in good manufacturing and services.
3. India's concerns regarding China's dominance in ASEAN must be addressed.
4. People-to-people contact must be encouraged and bilateral visits between ~~state~~ heads of states must increase.

ASEAN - India ties are essential for ensuring security and stability in the Indian Ocean region. ~~and~~ Their robust ties will bring prosperity to them and to all others in the Indo-Pacific.

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18. India's expanding interests rather than endorsement by others should be the basis of its engagement with what is being termed as the Indo-Pacific. Analyse. (250 words) 15

हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में भारत की संलग्नता अन्य देशों की समर्थन के स्थान पर भारत के विस्तृत होते हितों पर आधारित होनी चाहिए। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The Indo-Pacific is a geo-political construct that compresses the region between Indian Ocean, Western Pacific and includes contiguous seas off the coast of China.

In recent times, there has been an increasing international recognition of India's centrality in Indo Pacific region:-

① US renamed its Pacific Command as Indo-Pacific Command and highlighted India's central role in security of the region.

② Japan and Australia, in their statements, have underlines India's importance in the region.

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(3) ASEAN and other island countries view India as a net security provider in the region.

However, more than International recognition, it is India's own interests in the region that make it important for India to engage constructively with it :-

(1) To curb China's growing influence and to counter the string of Pearls.

(2) To protect important sea lanes of communication and trade routes through which India's oil imports come

(3) To tackle non-traditional security challenges like piracy, maritime terrorism etc.

(4) To forge and improve relationships with littoral states like Maldives and groupings like

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ASEAN.

(5) To establish and maintain naval bases at strategic locations to protect its interests.

India has high stakes in the Indo-Pacific region and it is a natural leader and security provider in the region. The international recognition ~~thus~~ underlies this fact.

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19. In what ways has the engagement between India and its diaspora evolved over the years? What role can the Indian diaspora play in furthering and shaping India's foreign policy goals? (250 words) 15

भारत और इसके डायस्पोरा के बीच सहभागिता बीते वर्षों के दौरान किस तरह विकसित हुई हैं? भारत की विदेशी नीति के लक्ष्यों को आगे बढ़ाने और आकार देने में भारतीय डायस्पोरा क्या भूमिका निभा सकते हैं?

Indian diaspora is a crucial pillar of India's foreign policy and largely shapes our relations with other countries.

Role of Diaspora in India's foreign policy

(1) Can exert pressure on the country's government ~~to~~ (where they reside) to avoid any anti-India measure

(2) Remittances and aid from diaspora can help in India's economic development

(3) Help in providing relief during humanitarian and natural crises like earthquakes (eg. UAE's help in recent Kerala floods)

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(4) Can help shaping policies of the host country in a way for increased convergence with India's interests.

(5) In some countries, Indian diaspora forms a significant part of the population (Eg Maldives - 8%). This it generates a pro-India feeling and helps in maintaining good relations between the countries.

The diaspora is an important tool for furthering India's foreign policy goals and interests. India must take efforts to deal with its diaspora more constructively.

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20. India Bangladesh relations have been termed one of fraternal friendship. What have been the key achievements in this context in the last few years? Also, identify steps to further consolidate these relations. (250 words) 15

भारत-बांग्लादेश संबंधों को भ्रातृत्व पूर्ण मित्रता में से एक कहा जाता है। बीते कुछ वर्षों में इस संदर्भ में प्रमुख उपलब्धियां क्या रही हैं? साथ ही, इन संबंधों को आगे और सुदृढ़ बनाने हेतु कुछ उपायों की पहचान कीजिए।

India and Bangladesh share close historical and cultural ties. India played an important role in the liberation and formation of Bangladesh in 1971.

After a slight dip in relations, India-Bangladesh ties have seen a reinvigoration in the past decade.

Key Achievements in ~~last~~ past years

① 2015 Land Sharing agreement which led to mutual sharing of enclaves ~~to~~ for better boundary demarcation.

② Membership of common fora like SAARC, BIMSTEC etc.

③ Signing of BBIN transport agreement.

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(4) Development aid to Bangladesh provided by India.

(5) Bangladesh's support to curb anti-insurgent movements in North-East India.

Steps to further consolidate relations:-

(1) Fast settlement of the Teesta River dispute.

(2) Increased meets and contacts both at government and people-to-people level.

(3) Bangladesh must alleviate India's concern regarding terrorist groups that are getting a stronghold in the region.

(4) Improved connectivity through effective implementation of BBIN transport network.

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Having good ties with Bangladesh can help India in securing its North-East states as well as to emerge as a reliable regional partner.

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